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Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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February 18, 2016

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To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
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From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

REPORT ON THE SENATE BUDGET PROPOSAL "NO PLACE LIKE HOME" RELATED TO LEVERAGING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT FUNDS TO CREATE MORE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (ITEM NO. 9. BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2016)

This memorandum provides a report on the Board action of January 12, 2016, which:

- 1) instructed the Chief Executive Officer, County Counsel, the Health Agency Director, Director of the Department of Mental Health, Community Development Commission, and Treasurer and Tax Collector to provide a comprehensive written analysis of the "No Place Like Home" initiative once details are released, but no later than 30 days; and
- 2) directed the Chief Executive Officer and the Sacramento advocates to work directly with the Senate President, Assembly Speaker, the Administration and other key stakeholders to ensure that any new initiatives considered by the State take into account the disproportionately high numbers of homeless individuals residing in the County and adequately address the issues identified in the County's comprehensive analysis.

On January 4, 2016, Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León and a bipartisan coalition of Senators announced a homelessness initiative called "No Place Like Home." The proposal would securitize an estimated \$130 million in Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds to provide \$2 billion in bond revenues to construct permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless persons with mental illnesses.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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The proposal also would: 1) allocate \$200 million in State General Fund over 4 years to provide supportive housing and rent subsidies while permanent housing is constructed; 2) provides funding for the "Bringing Families Home Pilot Project" which is a county match grant program to reduce homelessness among families that are part of the Child Welfare System; 3) the CalWORKs Housing Support Program, which provides housing and support services for families at risk of homelessness; and 3) increase SSI/SSP grants to assist about 1.3 million low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

Senate President De León has indicated that the Legislature will conduct hearings on the "No Place Like Home" initiative, and that it will be part of the budget negotiations with Governor Brown in June. To date, no further details on the initiative have been released and no committee hearings have been conducted.

This office has convened a workgroup of affected departments to identify key County priorities for the use of MHSA funding as proposed in the "No Place Like Home" initiative and will report back to the Board with recommendations.

We will continue to keep you advised.

SAH:JJ:MR
VE:lm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel